

REMARKS

Election Requirement

The Examiner has concluded that the application has four (4) distinct inventions. In accordance with 35 U.S.C. §121, the Examiner has required applicant to elect one invention subject to the restriction requirement.

Applicant hereby provisionally elects Examiner-designated Species 1, claim 1. However, Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement because newly-entered claim 14 is generic to all four species of invention cited by the Examiner, for the following reasons.

Claim 14 is generic to claim 1 because claim 14 is patterned after claim 1 but removes the following limitations contained in claim 1:

- “either of positive or negative polarity”
- “said electrode being at a predetermined distance from said aerosol droplets or particles”
- “which is of the same polarity as the high voltage electrode”

In addition claim 14 is generic to claim 2 because claims 1 & 2 are identical except for the following phrase, which is not present in claim 14:

- “which is of the opposite polarity as the high voltage electrode”

Furthermore, claim 14 is generic to claim 3 because claim 14 has all of the limitations of claim 3 except for the following:

- “grounded” (referring to the nozzle)

- “providing a grounded conductive cover around said nozzle and said electrode, said cover having an opening that allows a directed spray to exit;”
- “which is of the same polarity as the high voltage electrode”

Finally, claim 14 is generic to claim 4 because claims 3 & 4 are identical except for the following phrase, which is not present in claim 14:

- “which is of the opposite polarity as the high voltage electrode”

In addition, since claim 14 is generic to at least one independent claim from each Examiner-designated Species, claim 14 is generic to all of these Species.

In the event that the restriction requirement is not removed, it is requested that the remaining claims of the non-elected Species, while not being examined immediately, be allowed to remain in the application for purposes of a possible divisional application later during prosecution.

Amendment to the Specification

The specification has been amended to fix a typographical error in which the word “try” was inadvertently entered instead of “dry”. No new matter is added by fixing this obvious mistake.

Newly-Entered Claims

As indicated above, newly-entered claim 14 is based on originally-submitted claims 1-4 and thus no new matter is added by entering claim 14. In addition, all of the newly-entered

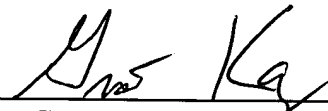
claims are based on original claims 1-13 and as such no new matter is added by entering these claims.

Conclusion

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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